

Message Text

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51

ACTION XMB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 EB-11 COME-00 AEC-11

TRSE-00 AID-20 OPIC-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7817

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5116

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: KRJKO NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT

REF: BELGRADE 4676, 4808 AND STATE 216259

1. VICE PRESIDENT MITJA RIBICIC TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT
"POLITICAL DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED" ON AWARDING OF KRJKO
CONTRACT, AND THAT "OUTCOME WOULD BE FAVORABLE TO
AMERICAN SIDE."

2. IN COURSE OF AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL, NOVEMBER 12,
RIBICIC EXPLAINED YUGOSLAV POLITICAL LEADERSHIP KEENLY IN-
TERESTED IN STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC TIES WITH U.S. ON OTHER
HAND, THERE IS STRONG FEELING, PARTICULARLY IN SLOVENIA
AND CROATIA, THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO DOWNGRADE CURRENT
OVER-RELIANCE ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY. YUGOSLAVIA "PAID HEAVY PRICE IN LATE 40'S", RIBICIC
RECALLED, FOR TYING ECONOMY TO ONE COUNTRY, USSR.

3. SOME KRJKO DETAILS STILL REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT, RIBICIC
CONTINUED, BUT HE WAS HIGHLY SATISFIED WITH BASIC DECISION
IN FAVOR OF US SUPPLIER, SINCE (1) AMERICAN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY
IS "VASTLY SUPERIOR", AND (2) AWARDING CONTRACT TO GERMAN
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FIRM WOULD COMPOUND OVER-RELIANCE PROBLEM.

4. COMMENT: RIBICIC COMMENT STRONGLY REINFORCES PREVIOUS INDICATIONS (SEE EMBTELS) THAT WESTINGHOUSE HAS MOVED INTO COMMANDING LEAD IN KRSKO BIDDING. FIRM'S MARKETING DIRECTOR RICHARDS TELLS US, HOWEVER, THAT OUTCOME MAY STILL DEPEND TO CONSIDERABLE EXTENT ON FORTHCOMING EX-IM BANK RESPONSE TO PROJECT DIRECTOR TELEX CONCERNING FINANCING OF DOLSKO AND JERTOVAC GAS TURBINE PLANTS. THAT TELEX, REPORTEDLY SENT NOVEMBER 12, IS SAID TO STATE THAT LETTER OF INTENT WILL BE ISSUED TO WESTINGHOUSE IF FINANCING FOR DOLSKO-JERTOVAC CAN BE ALONG LINES FINANCING FOR KRSKO.

TOON

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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